

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, and 9 are independent. Claims 1-3 and 7-11 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled by this Amendment. No new matter is involved with any claim amendment, as support may be found throughout the originally-file disclosure.

Anticipation by Sakai

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6 and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Sakai (US 5905914) is requested.

Applicants note that anticipation requires the disclosure, in a prior art reference, of each and every limitation as set forth in the claims.¹ There must be no difference between the claimed invention and reference disclosure for an anticipation rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102.² To properly anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim.³ “A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference”.⁴ “The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ...claim.”⁵ In determining anticipation, no claim limitation may be ignored.⁶ In view of the foregoing authority, the cited reference at least fails to anticipate independent claims 1 and 9, as amended.

Discussion of Applicant's Disclosure

By way of background, an embodiment of Applicant's disclosure includes an information apparatus to which a first display device and a second display device are connectable. The information apparatus includes a built-in display device, a keyboard, a switch button, a first switching process unit configured to switch, each time a predetermined key operation is effected on the keyboard, a display destination to one of at least i) the built-in display device, ii) the first

¹ *Titanium Metals Corp. v. Banner*, 227 USPQ 773 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

² *Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation v. Genentech, Inc.*, 18 USPQ2d 1001 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

³ See MPEP § 2131.

⁴ *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of Calif.*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

⁵ *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

⁶ *Pac-Tex, Inc. v. Amerace Corp.*, 14 USPQ2d 187 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

display device and iii) the second display device, and a second switching process unit configured to switch, when the first display device is disconnected, a display destination between the built-in display device and the second display device, each time the switch button is depressed.

According to another aspect, a display device switching method is applied to an information apparatus to which a first display device and a second display device are connectable and which includes a built-in display device, a keyboard, and a switch button. The method includes executing a first switching process for switching, each time a predetermined key operation is effected on the keyboard, a display destination to one of at least i) the built-in display device, ii) the first display device and iii) the second display device; and executing a second switching process for switching, when the first display device is disconnected, a display destination between the built-in display device and the second display device, each time the switch button is depressed.

Discussion of Sakai et al.

According to the Abstract, Sakai et al. ("Sakai") is purportedly directed to a portable computer having a dedicated register group and peripheral controller bus between the system bus and a peripheral controller. Dedicated registers are arranged in a status LCD control gate array connected to a system bus, and the dedicated registers or register group and a keyboard controller are connected through a keyboard interface bus. The keyboard controller has two ports for communicating with a CPU. The keyboard controller transfers existing commands released to an application program or the like and transmits normal key data through the system bus. The keyboard controller transmits hot key data and transfers a command for realizing any other special function through the keyboard interface bus and the dedicated registers.

Sakai discloses at col. 53:55-59, for example, that if the scan code read from the Fn status register 101 corresponds to the [F5] key, CPU 21 reads the current mode from the register of the VGA controller 32. The current mode is toggled in an order of "LCD" → "simultaneously display" → "CRT". However, Sakai fails to disclose two types of switching operations to be executed by a quote first switching process unit" and "second switching process unit" as recited in independent claim 1, as amended, and as similarly recited in independent claim 9, as amended.

Rather, Sakai merely teaches a switching operation based on only two types of display devices (*i.e.*, "LCD" and "CRT"), not the three types of display devices as variously claimed.

Specific Deficiencies of the Applied Art

Specifically, the applied art does not disclose an information apparatus that includes, *inter alia*, "...a first switching process unit configured to switch a destination of the display data to be output from the display controller ***to one of at least i) the built-in display device, ii) the first display device and iii) the second display device in a predetermined order, each time a predetermined key operation is effected on the keyboard***; and a second switching process unit configured ***to switch a destination of the display data to be output from the display controller between the built-in display device and the second display device, alternately, each time the switch button is depressed when the first display device is disconnected***", as recited in independent claim 1, as amended (*emphasis added*).

Further, the applied art does not disclose a display device switching method applied to an information apparatus, wherein the method includes, *inter alia*, "...executing a first switching process for ***switching a destination of the display data to be output from the display controller to one of at least i) the built-in display device, ii) the first display device and iii) the second display device in a predetermined order, each time a predetermined key operation is effected on the keyboard***; and executing a second switching process for switching a destination of the display data to be output from the display controller between the built-in display device and the second display device, ***alternately, each time the switch button is depressed when the first display device is disconnected***", as recited in independent claim 9, as amended (*emphasis added*).

Accordingly, since the applied art does not teach or suggest all the claimed limitations, reconsideration and allowance of independent claims 1 and 9 are respectfully requested. In addition, dependent claims 2-6 and 10-11 variously and ultimately depend from these allowable independent claims, they are submitted as being allowable at least on that basis, without further recourse to the patentable features recited therein.

Anticipation by Ishii

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ishii (US 6028585) is requested. The legal requirements for anticipation have been discussed above.

Discussion of Ishii et al.

According to the Abstract, Ishii et al. ("Ishii") is purportedly directed to an information handling apparatus and screen display control method for appropriately controlling a screen display when a changed output destination for a display signal is selected from among a plurality of display devices having different resolutions. The method, which switches a display signal output destination between a plurality of display devices connected to an information processing apparatus, has (a) a first resolution control step of examining a physical maximum resolution for each of the plurality of display devices that are connected to the information handling apparatus, and storing the examined physical maximum resolutions respectively; (b) a second resolution control step of determining a maximum resolution (maximum static resolution) that is used for the allocation of a screen buffer; (c) a selection step of designating one of the plurality of display devices as an display signal output destination in accordance with an instruction from a user; (d) a third resolution control step of determining a maximum resolution (maximum dynamic resolution) in accordance with a display ability of software for which a screen display is currently being performed; and (e) a resolution determination step of setting a physical resolution of the display device designated, at the step (c), as the display signal output destination, to a lower resolution of either the physical maximum resolution stored at the step (a) or the maximum dynamic resolution determined at the step (d).

Ishii at col. 11:42-52 discloses that a user can switch to another display device that is to be used as an output destination. The display devices are TV monitor 51, LCD 52, and CRT display 53. However, similar to Sakai, discussed above, Ishii fails to disclose two types of switching operations to be executed by the "first switching process unit" and "second switching process unit" as variously recited in the pending claims. For example, Ishii is completely silent about the case where TV monitor 51 is disconnected.

Specific Deficiencies of the Applied Art

Specifically, the applied art does not disclose an information apparatus that includes, *inter alia*, "...a first switching process unit configured ***to switch a destination of the display data to be output from the display controller to one of i) the LCD device, ii) the LCD device and the CRT device, iii) the CRT device, iv) the TV monitor device and the LCD device and v) the TV monitor device in a predetermined order, each time a predetermined key operation is effected on the keyboard***; and a second switching process unit configured ***to switch a destination of the display data to be output from the display controller between the LCD device and the TV monitor device, alternately, each time the switch button is depressed when the CRT device is disconnected, and to switch a destination of the display data to be output from the display controller between the CRT device and the TV monitor device, alternately, each time the switch button is depressed when the CRT device is connected***", as recited in independent claim 7, as amended.

Accordingly, since the applied art does not teach or suggest all the claimed limitations, reconsideration and allowance of independent claim 7 is respectfully requested. In addition, dependent claim 8 depends from allowable independent claim 7, and is submitted as being allowable at least on that basis, without further recourse to the patentable features recited therein.

Conclusion

All rejections having been addressed, Applicant submits that each of pending claims 1-11 in the present application is in immediate condition for allowance. An early indication of the same would be appreciated.

In the event the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues in this case, the Undersigned Attorney is available at the telephone number indicated below.

Although no fees are believed to be due, for any fees that are due during the pendency of this application, please charge Deposit Account Number 03-3975 from which the Undersigned

MATSUBARA – 10/822,779
Attorney Docket: 008312-0309178
Amendment in Response to Non-Final OA mailed 5/16/07

Attorney is authorized to draw. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Date: August 15, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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